



**Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Southern District of Texas**

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**MAIL THIEF SENTENCED TO PRISON TERM**

HOUSTON, TX – Folly Moses Shadare, 48, a naturalized U.S. citizen originally from Nigeria, was sentenced to federal prison for possessing stolen U.S. mail containing personal identifying information of others and selling that information, United States Attorney Don DeGabrielle announced today. On March 24, 2006, Shadare pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess stolen mail. Today, United States District Judge Keith P. Ellison sentenced Shadare to 30 months in federal prison and ordered him to pay \$13,890 in restitution to Capital One Bank. Shadare will also be supervised by the court for a period of three years upon his released from prison.

The investigation leading to the arrest of Shadare began in 2003 when United States Postal Inspectors received information that Shadare was involved in fraud and identity theft by selling “credit headers” for \$100 each. “Credit headers” contain a victim’s name, address, social security number, date of birth and other identifying information, and are used by the unscrupulous to open credit accounts in the victim’s name without their consent.

In October 2003, Shadare sold credit headers on two occasions to confidential informants (CIs) working with investigating agents. These transactions were audio and video taped by inspectors. When selling the credit headers to the CIs, Shadare had provided them with a fax number so that they could send information to him about what they wanted to buy. After Shadare delivered the credit headers to the CIs, inspectors followed him to an apartment on the 10200 block of West Bellort. The fax number provided to the CIs by Shadare was also traced to the apartment. Having obtained a warrant to search the residence, inspectors found the fax machine and handwritten documents sent by the CIs containing the names and addresses of victims. Inspectors seized two fax machines and over 50 credit headers from the apartment.

The Postal Inspection Service Crime Lab examined the documents and found Shadare’s fingerprints on almost all 50 of the credit headers found in the apartment, and confirmed that virtually all of the credit headers found in that apartment had been printed from the Panasonic fax machine seized at the apartment.

Coincidentally, on the same date, October 21, 2003, a different group of Postal Inspectors went to a home at 10462 Tenneco in Houston and arrested a man named Solomon Adewale Adebajo. Adebajo had been living at that address under a fake name and was wanted for a probation violation. Adebajo consented to a search of his residence, where inspectors found

numerous credit cards, checks, stolen mail, credit reports and headers, and other items used to commit identity theft. It was not until 2004 that inspectors suspected a link between the Tenneco address and Folly Shadare.

A crime lab analysis of the items found at Adebajo's home resulted in the discovery of Shadare's fingerprints on one credit header and one preapproved credit card application. The lab further found that 100 of the 260 credit headers found in Adebajo's home had been printed from the fax machine found at the West Belfort apartment.

The names on the fraudulent account information found at Adebajo's home were cross-referenced to the identities contained in the credit headers that had been printed from Shadare's fax machine. Over 100 matches have been found. Many fraudulent credit cards found in Adebajo's home were applied for using stolen information found on a credit header that had been printed from Shadare's fax machine. In total, more than 310 credit headers containing the identifying information of over 150 different people were found at both residences. At least 150 of those have been forensically linked to Shadare's fax machine.

The information from the credit headers provided by Shadare aided and abetted Adebajo and others to commit bank fraud, mail fraud and access device fraud. Adebajo, who was also convicted of possession of stolen mail, was sentenced on February 4, 2005, by United States District Judge Nancy F. Atlas to 37 months in federal prison, without parole, to be followed by a three year term of supervised release.

This case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jay Hileman.

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